Accident of MIG Aircraft

500. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of MIG aircraft which have been lost during this year so far;

(b) what is the value of these aircraft;

(c) the number of trainee pilots who have lost their lives;

(d) what are the reasons for the loss of only these MIG aircraft;

(e) whether Government are planning to drop MIG aircraft from the IAF fleet of air defence system; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) During this year 2001-02 (till 17th July, 2001), 05 MIG Aircrafts have been lost.

(b) the total loss on account of these aircrafts is approximately Rupees 40.23 Crores.

(c) None.

(d) The Courts of Enquiry have been completed in respect of four cases in which Human Error (Aircrew) was found to be the main cause in three and Technical Defect in one. One enquiry is still in progress.

(e) and (f) Although MIG-21 is an ageing aircraft, requiring regular maintenance checks, it remains fully airworthy. Therefore, the MIG-21 is likely to stay in Indian Air Force, albeit in smaller numbers, for a longer period than envisaged earlier.

Kargil Review Committee

501. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the Kargil Review Committee Report; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government had tabled the Kargil Review Committee Report along with its executive summary and the Report on Action Initiated by the Government in the Rajya Sabha on February 28, 2000. A further supplementary Action Taken Report on the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee was also tabled by the Government in both Houses of Parliament on April 18, 2000. Government had constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) on April 17, 2000 to thoroughly review the national security system in its entirety and in particular, to consider the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee, and to formulate specific proposals for implementation. The GoM consisted of the Home Minister, the Raksha Mantri, the External Affairs Minister and the Finance Minister. The GoM had after careful consideration of various issues formulated a comprehensive Report titled 'Reforming the National Security System', which was presented to the Prime Minister on February 26, 2001. The Government approved the recommendations made in the Report of the GoM on May 11, 2001 with the modification that a view on the recommendation relating to the institution of the CDS will be taken after consultation with various political parties. Implementation of the recommendations of the GoM has already commenced. In order to ensure that the recommendations are implemented in a time bound manner, the implementation process is being closely monitored by the Government.

Artificial limbs for soldiers

†502. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for making light artificial limbs made of carbon fibre for the soldiers becoming physically handicapped during the war and anti-terrorist action in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the soldiers likely to be benefited by this scheme annually?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Modular Carbon Fibre Artificial Limbs are being manufactured at 515 Army Base Workshop, Bangalore and are fitted at Artificial Limbs Centre, Pune. So far, 200 physically handicapped soldiers have been fitted with light weight Carbon Fibre limbs low knee.

(c) All physically, handicapped soldiers are likely to be benefited.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.